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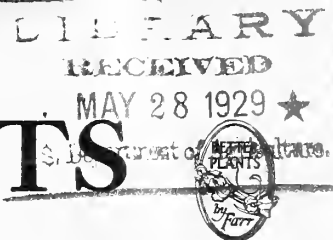
BETTER PLANTS

God's first gift to man was a Beautiful Garden

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Irises at an Iowa Home



An Iris-bordered walk in Virginia

Color Makes Gardens "Go Round"

GARDENS that fail to "go round" are dreary and desolate—we can imagine such gardens resemble the dead planets that move in boundless spaces. However, gardens need not be set on a Ferris wheel to give motion that keeps them alive. The mere shifting of plants gives a new view; a change in the color combination gives a new thrill; there is always some undiscovered pleasure awaiting the gardener who plans for spring and autumn changes.

It seems to be just as essential to change the appearance of the garden as it is to change the interior decorations of the house—the rugs, the pictures, and even wallpaper. And the garden should be changed oftener, for every visitor and passer-by sees the outdoor living-room, while comparatively few will see the good taste manifested inside of your home. The garden can be made a public expression of taste and refinement in both color and arrangement.

POPULAR GARDENS ARE GARDENS OF COLOR

The most striking and popular gardens are those where color

is used lavishly. The color scheme may be changed frequently provided suitable plants are selected for the purpose. Such plants must submit readily to moving from place to place, must be perfectly hardy, must be economical in cost, and, greatest of all, capable of producing a veritable rainbow of color in the outdoor living-room.

Irises meet these conditions. They can be planted by the thousand at a low cost; they can be planted by the dozen in small gardens; no matter what the space or the location, you can find some variety or color of Iris that will meet the conditions. Tear out the dull and worn-out specimens. Renew the garden with splashes of color.

Irises can be transplanted while in bloom, a point that enables you to correct contrasts that are not pleasing, or locations that are not desirable. If you do not wish to make the correction during the first blooming season, the out-of-place plants can readily be marked and moved before they become permanently established. Simply lift them carefully, cut back about two-thirds of the foliage and the flower stem, and reset in the new place.



"One Color" groups afford interesting designs and colorful display

HOW TO PREPARE FOR PLANTING IRISES

Little preparation is necessary for the planting of Irises. Add lime to the soil, if it is acid and you intend to plant bulbous varieties. Plant bulbous Irises so that the upper third or fourth of the bulb is exposed to sun and air. Plant fibrous sorts even to the crown, and where the soil is not of heavy lime content.

Bulbous Irises include Dwarf, Early May-flowering, and Tall Bearded.

Fibrous include Siberian, Japanese, and Water Irises.

First-Year Culture

Feed with Vigoro. Keep cultivated. Mulch with clean, light straw, hay, or excelsior for winter. Never use manure.

Second-Year Culture

Repeat Vigoro and cultivation. No winter protection necessary. Remove dead foliage in spring. Irises are exceptionally hardy, but will respond to care and attention like anything else. Write us if any specific troubles or problems should occur.

IRISES FOR MASS COLOR DISPLAY

The most attractive and comprehensive offer of good Irises in quantity that has ever been made. We do not expect to repeat it.

Use Irises for borders, along walks, drives, fences, around garden pools, beside steps and in foundation groups.

Use Irises for bedding, for planting at the base of terraces, on slopes and banks, and in general mass displays.

Use Irises where other plants will not succeed. Irises will conquer drought and weeds, and their abundant and colorful blooms will make them future companions for the most delicate plants.

Buy these Irises by the dozen and by the hundred

At the prices here given you can fill your garden with a mass of self-increasing and self-sustaining color and beauty.

TERMS 30 DAYS IF DESIRED

EACH, PRICE PER ROOT						EACH, PRICE PER ROOT					
	5 Roots	10 Roots	25 Roots	50 Roots	100 Roots		5 Roots	10 Roots	25 Roots	50 Roots	100 Roots
BLUE						PINK					
Commodore. Clear violet-blue.....	\$0.12	\$0.10	\$0.08	\$0.06	\$0.05	Aurora. Pale pink.....	\$0.16	\$0.15	\$0.14	\$0.12	\$0.10
Drake. Clear light blue.....	.12	.10	.08	.06	.05	Her Majesty. Pink.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10
Germanica. Old-fashioned Blue Flag.....	.12	.10	.08	.06	.05	Queen of May. Pink.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10
Mary Orth. Large; blue and violet.....	.12	.10	.08	.06	.05	Lohengrin. Cattleya-rose.....	.18	.16	.15	.14	.12
Albert Victor. Blue and lavender.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10	Prosper Laugier. Bronzy red.....	.18	.16	.15	.14	.12
Juniata. Late; tall; clear blue.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10	Cecil Minturn. Large; free; rose-pink.....	.22	.20	.18	.16	.15
Pallida Dalmatica. Lavender-blue.....	.20	.18	.15	.14	.12	Georgia. Soft Cattleya-rose.....	.22	.20	.18	.16	.15
Tom Tit. Deep blue-purple.....	.18	.16	.15	.14	.12	Windham. Lavender-pink.....	.22	.20	.18	.16	.15
Crusader. Large; clear blue.....	.30	.25	.24	.22	.20	Wyomissing. Cream-white and pink.....	.22	.20	.18	.16	.15
Queen Caterina. Pale lavender.....	.30	.25	.24	.22	.20	Dream. Tall; pink.....	.40	.35	.34	.32	.30
BICOLOR						YELLOW					
Blue Beard. Dwarf; white and blue.....	.12	.10	.08	.06	.05	Aurea Maculata. Dwarf; flecked yellow.....	.12	.10	.08	.06	.05
Col. Candelot. Smoky crimson.....	.12	.10	.08	.06	.05	Flavescens. Tall; soft yellow.....	.15	.12	.10	.09	.08
Navajo. Yellow and maroon.....	.12	.10	.08	.06	.05	Foster's Yellow. Cream-yellow.....	.15	.12	.10	.09	.08
Rhein Nix. White and blue.....	.15	.12	.10	.09	.08	Sherwin-Wright. Golden yellow.....	.15	.12	.10	.09	.08
Walhalla. Lavender and blue.....	.15	.12	.10	.09	.08	Dawn. Light yellow.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10
Dallila. White and plum.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10	Etta. Early; cream-yellow.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10
Iris King. Yellow and maroon.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10	Aurea. Chrome-yellow.....	.20	.18	.15	.15	.15
Princess Victoria Louise. Yellow and plum.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10	Shekinah. Tall; lemon-yellow.....	.30	.25	.24	.22	.20
Dusky Maid. Buff and mauve-purple.....	.18	.16	.15	.14	.12	PURPLE					
Lent A. Williamson. Violet and purple.....	.30	.25	.24	.22	.20	Alcazar. Violet and purple.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10
WHITE						Azure. Violet-purple.....	.20	.18	.15	.14	.12
Florentina. Old fashioned white.....	.12	.10	.08	.06	.05	Kochi. Deep royal purple.....	.20	.18	.15	.14	.12
Mrs. Horace Darwin. Favorite white.....	.15	.12	.10	.09	.08	Mme. Cheri. Vinaceous purple.....	.20	.18	.15	.14	.12
Siberian, Snow Queen. Best white Siberian.....	.18	.16	.15	.14	.12	Parc de Neuilly. Violet-purple.....	.20	.18	.15	.14	.12
Athene. Neat white.....	.30	.25	.24	.22	.20	SIBERIAN AND WATER IRISES					
La Neige. Ivory white.....	.30	.25	.24	.22	.20	Siherian Purple. Unnamed.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.12
White Knight. Tallest white.....	.30	.25	.24	.22	.20	Siherian Emperor. Purple.....	.18	.16	.15	.14	.12
BLENDED COLORS						Pseudacorus. Yellow Water Iris.....	.18	.16	.15	.14	.12
Eldorado. Golden purple.....	.15	.12	.10	.09	.08	Versicolor. Blue Water Iris.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.12
Isoline. Lilac and rose.....	.18	.16	.15	.14	.12	Grab-Bag Collections					
Minnehaha. Yellow, white, and maroon.....	.18	.16	.15	.14	.12	To dispose of odds and ends, we offer the following Collections of varieties, our selection.					
Shrewsbury. Rose-bronze and purple.....	.18	.16	.15	.14	.12	Plants will be named and labeled. Our selection will include as wide a range of type and color as possible.					
Jacquesiana. Coppery maroon.....	.18	.16	.15	.14	.14	We have discarded and disposed of more than 400 lesser varieties since 1925. The Collections will include the remaining better sorts.					
Afterglow. Buff-gray-yellow.....	.22	.20	.18	.16	.15	Send no money until you have seen the plants and our selection. Return shipment at our expense if not satisfactory.					
Quaker Lady. Lavender and yellow.....	.22	.20	.18	.16	.15	You may specify the one least desired color. We will then select varieties accordingly, and will exclude one color you do not want.					
Syphax. S. mauve; F. velvety raisin-purple.....	.30	.25	.24	.22	.20	30 plants in 5 varieties, our selection, \$3.00					
Zwanenburg. Cream and maroon.....	.30	.25	.24	.22	.20	30 plants in 10 varieties, our selection, \$3.75					
REDDISH TONED						50 plants in 5 varieties, our selection, \$4.50					
Edouard Michel. Deep red.....	.30	.28	.25	.25	.25	50 plants in 10 varieties, our selection, \$5.50					
Roseway. Tall; red-pink.....	.30	.28	.25	.25	.25	100 plants in 5 varieties, our selection, \$7.75					
Ruby. Uniform dark rose.....	.30	.28	.25	.25	.25	100 plants in 10 varieties, our selection, \$9.75					
Seminole. Rich velvety crimson.....	.30	.28	.25	.25	.25	100 plants in 20 varieties, our selection, \$12.25					
PPLICATA											
Fairy. White, suffused blue.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10						
Ma Mie. White, edged blue.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10						
Pocahontas. White, veined blue.....	.16	.15	.14	.12	.10						

A discount of 5 per cent will be allowed on orders placed from this circular within the next 10 days; 3 per cent additional for cash with order

IRIS, MARY BARNETT

Introduced by Farr Nursery Co.

At Harrisburg, Pa., are about the greatest number of Iris fans per capita of any locality of which we know. The Iris Show is an annual event, and the exhibits of seedlings and standard varieties, in quality and quantity, are equal to any in this country. For three years, Mary Barnett, originated by Mrs. M. A. Cumbler, Highspire, Pa., in 1926, had been observed and was given an award by Mr. Farr and Mr. Wister as the best seedling of the exhibit. Free-blooming and vigorous-growing qualities had been tested, and the entire commercial supply of Mary Barnett was therefore acquired by the Farr Nursery Co.

Mary Barnett is simply described as a glorified and larger Pallida Dalmatica, with a golden beard so brilliant that the reflection pervades the bloom. It will not displace Pallida Dalmatica, because there is room for both, but all who have seen it agree that it is even more beautiful. \$6 each.



The back yard problem solved, beautifully and economically

The "Nine Color" Collections

The varieties in these Collections have been grown in large quantity for the purpose of permitting our customers and friends to secure a wide range of color.

Select one variety of each color
thus giving you the full color range

Blue. Select Germanica, Commodore, or Mary Orth.

Bicolor. Select Rhein Nixe or Col. Candelot.

Blended. Select Eldorado, Isolene, or Afterglow.

Red. Seminole.

White. Florentina. (White Knight extra.)

Plicata. Select Fairy, Ma Mie, or Pocahontas.

Pink. Select Cecil Minturn or Georgia.

Yellow. Select Flavescens or Foster's Yellow.

Purple. Select Alcazar or Azure.

Collection No. 1: 5 plants of each color (45 in all), list price \$8, for \$6.50.

Collection No. 2: 10 plants of each color (90 in all), list price \$14.70, for \$12.

Collection No. 3: 25 plants of each color (225 in all), list price \$30.25, for \$25.

If **White Knight** is desired instead of Florentina, the price of Collection No. 1 will be \$7.25; of No. 2, \$13.50; and of No. 3, \$28.

Ninety Days of Iris Bloom

Iris exist in hundreds of species and thousands of varieties. Many species are not hardy in this country and many varieties have been discarded in favor of improvements. The Farr Collections include all which have proved to be distinct and hardy. A schedule of types and blooming seasons follows. Variations will occur according to latitude.

1. **Dwarf.** Late April to mid-May. 5 to 6 inches.
2. **Intermediate.** Mid-May to June. 10 to 18 inches.
3. **Cristata.** Mid-May. 3 to 4 inches.
4. **Tall Bearded.** Late May to mid-June. 15 to 36 inches, and even to 48 inches.
5. **Pseudacorus.** Yellow Water Iris. May and June. 36 inches.
6. **Siberian.** May and June. 24 to 48 inches.
7. **Japanese.** Late June to late July. 24 to 36 inches.
8. **Versicolor.** Blue Water Iris. Late June to mid-July. 36 in.

Rainbows for Your Garden

Easy Way to Get Them

Terms 30 days. You need not send money with your order. Simply furnish credit references if you have not purchased from us recently, or for several years past. The terms of 30 days give you an opportunity of examining the plants and be sure of the quality before paying for them.

5 per cent prompt order discount. If you place your order within 10 days after the receipt of this issue of "Better Plants" you may deduct 5 per cent from the total order.

3 per cent cash discount. If you send cash with the order you may deduct 3 per cent additional.

Shipping methods. More than 100 roots are best shipped by express or freight. Packages weighing more than 50 pounds should not go by Parcel Post.

Shipping season. Irises may be shipped from late June until September. Early planting is most desirable. We shall be glad to ship at the time you may indicate.

A discount of 5 per cent will be allowed on orders placed from this circular within the next 10 days; 3 per cent additional for cash with order.



One of our Iris plantings at Weiser Park. A larger one will be in bloom this May, also two smaller plantings—15 acres in all

On page 2 of this issue of BETTER PLANTS you will find a most comprehensive offer of good Irises in quantity. Probably such a money-saving offer has never before been made to users of Irises. Plant now for blooms in 1930 and each year thereafter.

Sec. 435½, P.L. & R.

Return Postage Guaranteed by
Farr Nursery Co., Weiser Park, Pa.

BETTER PLANTS

COLOR ARRANGEMENT

Because Iris blooms are of iridescent nature, the varying colors are not likely to clash and produce unpleasant contrasts in the gardens. A few major principles should, however, be observed:

1. Avoid sharp contrasts. Work from light to dark shades gradually.
2. Use blue varieties as harmonizers and balancers. They set well next to any Iris color.
3. Pink, white, yellow, and blue will mingle pleasantly. Red, purple, and bronze should be first flanked with blues.
4. Some sharp contrasts are sometimes desirable, in accordance with the modern trend to vivid color. Experiment, and transplant later if desired.

CULTIVATION COMMENTS FROM AN ENGLISH IRIS CATALOGUE

It is most important for amateur growers to realize that although the Bearded Flag Irises will do well in almost every garden, three conditions are necessary for their successful cultivation—sun, good drainage, and lime. They should not be planted in the shade or in wet or water-logged ground.

We recommend that our customers lift and transplant the Bearded Irises about every fourth year, retaining only the strongest and healthiest young rhizomes.

If the soil is deficient in lime, this can easily be remedied by adding it as necessary.

When preparing new beds for Irises, do not use a quantity of stable manure.

Do not plant rhizomatous Irises too deeply; the rhizomes should only be just below the surface of the soil. Plant firmly always.



An outlay of from \$10 to \$20 will produce this \$200 effect

For growing in damp places and at the waterside, use Siberian, Japanese, and varieties of *Pseudacorus*.

When you have bought an Iris you have furnished one portion of your garden permanently. It is a very hardy perennial.

You can have Irises flowering in your hardy garden in April, May, June, July, and August.

No other hardy plant will give you the same range of color, or the same variety of form.

There are sterling varieties that will suit your pocket.

If you are an artist, and carry your art into the garden, there is an opportunity here that no other flower can offer.

You can have a complete garden with Irises alone, but you cannot have a complete garden without them.

A GOOD IRIS BOOK

"*The Iris*," by John C. Wister, Landscape Architect, President American Iris Society, and Secretary of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. A book that you will be glad to own, as it gives information of value to every Iris-grower and gardener. The price is \$1.25, and the book should be ordered directly from the publishers, Orange Judd Publishing Company, 15 East 26th St., New York City.

LECTURE SERVICE

Irises and Peonies

Mr. H. G. Seyler, the editor of *Better Plants* and Treasurer of Farr Nursery Company, is available for a limited number of lectures on Irises or Peonies. The lectures are illustrated by colored lantern slides. Terms are travel expenses and a \$10 lecture fee. Mr. Seyler cannot leave the nursery during bloom seasons (April, May, and early June). Write if this service is desired at any other time.

FARR NURSERY COMPANY

Weiser Park, Pennsylvania